

**OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PLANNING AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**

**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY**

**FY21 Great Streets Legacy Small Business Recovery Grant**

**Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: Monday, July 19, 2021**

**Grant Identification No.: DMPED – FY21 GSLGCY**

The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (**DMPED**) is soliciting grant applications from legacy business owners who have been established and in operation in the District of Columbia for a minimum of 20 years seeking financial support to continue operations in one of the thirteen legislatively prescribed Retail Priority Areas (“**Great Streets Corridors**”) in the District of Columbia (“**Legacy Small Business Recovery Grant**”).

Legacy businesses are staples in the District’s small business ecosystem, serve as primary contributors to neighborhood identity, and face a significant risk of displacement. Unfortunately, legacy businesses were impacted severely due to the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and public health emergency and face a significant risk for continued impairment and/or cessation of operations. Without funding assistance, many of these businesses and specifically those located in historically economically distressed areas and/or owned by historically marginalized groups may not recover and close.

Preserving our longstanding businesses is critical to maintaining a strong local economy and the essence of the District’s vibrancy. The purpose of the Legacy Small Business Recovery Grant is to support historic and longstanding small businesses to retain their history, increase the District’s tax base, create new job opportunities for District residents, and impact designated Great Streets Corridors and emerging commercial corridors.

**Funding Priorities:** The Legacy Small Business Recovery Grant identified the following program funding priorities.

1. The Great Streets Initiative grows the District’s local small business economy and bolsters neighborhoods with inadequate access to retail opportunities. DMPED seeks to invest in 13 Great Streets Corridors, with the goal of creating livable, walkable, shoppable, community-serving retail experiences across all eight wards.
2. The Legacy Small Business Recovery Grant is a mechanism to support historic businesses that anchor Great Streets neighborhoods and serves as an opportunity to retain important fixtures in the District’s local small business economy and create new experiences and opportunities within legacy businesses and maintain the District’s history and culture.
3. The Great Streets Initiative also serves as an economic intervention for legacy businesses to maintain its operations and physical presence within the Great Streets corridors.

4. DMPED seeks to invest in small businesses:

- a. That are Local Business Enterprise (**LBE**) eligible;
- b. That has operated continuously for a minimum of 20 years.
- c. That maintain and/or create new jobs, with a commitment to hire District residents.
- d. That serves or may serve a community anchor and impacts the Great Streets Corridors and community by its presence, and
- e. That can support existing retailers and the designated Great Streets corridor's economic vitality by attracting new consumers and/or visitors to the area.

**The application deadline is Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 4:00 pm/ET.**

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Great Streets Initiative and the Legacy Small Business Recovery Grant is to transform certain designated emerging commercial corridors into thriving, walkable, shoppable and inviting neighborhood experiences. The Great Streets Initiative does this by supporting existing businesses, attracting new businesses, increasing the District's tax base, and creating new job opportunities for District residents.

**Background Information:** Pursuant to the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Limited Grant-Making Authority Amendment Act 2016, effective October 8, 2016 (D.C. Law 21-160; D.C. Official Code § 1-328.04); and "Great Streets Neighborhood Retail Priority Area Amendment Act of 2013" effective October 1, 2013 (D.C. Code § 2-1217.73b), DMPED invites the submission of applications for the Grant.

**Award:** Based on the external and internal review panel recommendations, the Mayor's budget priorities, the resources available, the goal of achieving a balance as to communities served, and the goals of the program, DMPED will make the final funding decision. DMPED will award up to **\$585,000.00 total** in grants to be disbursed to successful applicants of the Grant. Maximum request per application is **\$585,000.00**.

**Eligible businesses:** Retail oriented businesses with 20 or more years of continuous business operations in the District and whose business location is either within and/or plan to move to a Great Street Corridor are eligible (see map at: <http://ht.ly/m90F30cM0bz> ).

**Ineligible businesses:** Adult entertainment, Auto body repair, Bank, Bar or Nightclub, as defined by an ABRA license and/or permits, Construction/general contracting/architecture/design-build, E-commerce business, Financial services, Home-based, Hotel, Liquor store, Phone store, Professional services, Real estate development/property management/realtor, Seasonal (open only part of the year).

**List of the Great Street Corridors:**

7 <sup>th</sup> Street/Georgia Ave NW	North Capitol Street NW/NE
Connecticut Avenue NW	Pennsylvania Avenue SE
Georgia Avenue NW	Wisconsin Avenue NW
H Street – Bladensburg Road NE	Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue NE
Minnesota/Benning Road NE	Rhode Island Avenue NE
Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE/ South	U Street/14 <sup>th</sup> Street NW (Adams
Capitol Street SE/SW	Morgan/Columbia Heights/Mt. Pleasant)
New York Avenue NE	

For additional eligibility requirements and exclusions, please review the Request for Application (RFA) which will be posted at <http://greatstreets.dc.gov> by **Monday, July 19, 2021**

**Period of Performance:** Execution of grant agreement through September 30, 2021.

**Selection Criteria:** Applications will be evaluated based on the scoring criteria set forth in the RFA.

**Application Process:** The application process will include an initial screening of applications, a review panel process, and a final review to determine the final funding decision. Each step will be further described in the RFA.

**Final Determination of Award:** Anticipated time for processing applications is fifteen (15) to thirty days (30) days after the date the RFA closes.

**Grant Information Sessions:** DMPED will host multiple virtual information and live web chat sessions on the Great Streets Corridors. Once confirmed, details about the information sessions will be posted on the Great Streets website at [www.greatstreets.dc.gov](http://www.greatstreets.dc.gov).

**Contact Name:** DMPED Grants Team **Phone:** 202.727-6365 **Email:** [dmped.grants@dc.gov](mailto:dmped.grants@dc.gov)

**Deadline for Electronic Submission:** Applicants must submit a completed online application to DMPED via the GiftsOnline system no later than 4:00 PM/ET on **Wednesday, August 18, 2021**.